Impact of nuclear tests on Internal Security Environment

1177. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any study for evaluating the impact of our nuclear tests in May, 1998 on the internal security environment of the country as the tests were primarily designed to act as deterrent for cross-border terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) India's nuclear tests in May, 1998 were undertaken to demonstrate that India has a credible nuclear deterrent and to reassure the Indian people that Government attaches the highest priority to addressing India's security concerns. The rationale for the tests has been elaborated in the paper entitled "Evolution of India's Nuclear Policy" tabled in the Parliament on May 27, 1998.

(b) and (c) Docs not arise.

Dual Citizenship to NRIs

1178. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to confer dual citizenship by issuing a Person of Indian Origin (PTO) card to Non-residents Indians; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and purpose therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Government is appointing a Committee to examine to entire issue of 'dual nationality'. This Committee will hold wide consultations, elicit public opinion, examine the pros and cons of different options and formulate recommendations' on the question of Dual nationality or any suitable varient. A scheme for the issuance of a Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) card for those living abroad and having foreign passports is also being finalised separately. The PIO card would confer on its holder a range of special benefits, including a visa-free regime and several other facilities in the economic, financial and educational fields.

Disappearance of Charas from Trilokpuri P.S.

1179. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 500 kg of confiscated charas disappeared from Trilokpuri Police Station in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the persons responsible for the loss; and

(c) the action proposed agaisnt those responsible for the loss?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The investigation into this case is in progress.

Extremist Activities in Tripura

1180. SHRI GAYA SINGH: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steep rise in the number of extremist attacks on innocent people in the remote border State of Tripura;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents during the current year and the number of people killed;